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DE WTE #29658/1511706
O 311718Z MAY 75
FM THE SITUATION ROOM //TOHAK 74//

TO COMPERI/RODMAN FOR THE SECRETARY/SCOWCROFT

T O P S E C R E T SENSITIVE CONTAINS CODEWORD WH51006

TOHAK 74

ON-FILE NSC RELEASE INSTRUCTIONS
APPLY

TOP SECRET-SENSITIVE
CONTAINS CODEWORD

MAY 31, 1975

MEMORANDUM FOR SECRETARY KISSINGER
FROM: THE SITUATION ROOM
SUBJECT: INFORMATION ITEMS

SHARON MAY BE APPOINTED NATIONAL SECURITY ADVISOR: ACCORD-
ING TO UNCONFIRMED ISRAELI PRESS REPORTS, PRIME MINISTER
RABIN HAS ASKED ARIEL "ARIK" SHARON TO ACCEPT APPOINTMENT
AS HIS NATIONAL SECURITY ADVISOR. SHARON HAS REPORTEDLY
AGREED TO ACCEPT THE POSITION, BUT RABIN MUST FIRST OBTAIN
APPROVAL FROM HIS CABINET. OPPOSITION FORCES ARE REPORTEDLY
PREPARING TO BLOCK THE NOMINATION. SHARON MADE MANY ENEMIES
IN HIS FREE-WHEELING CRITICISM OF GOLDA MEIR'S GOVERNMENT
AND OF THE IDF'S CONDUCT OF THE OCTOBER WAR. MINISTER OF
DEFENSE PERES AND CHIEF OF STAFF GUR STRONGLY OPPOSE THE
APPOINTMENT. THE POST OF NATIONAL SECURITY ADVISOR IS A
NEW ONE WITH NO INCUMBENT AND NO CLEAR DEFINITION OF ITS
ROLE OR ITS POWER.

MORI/CDF C02400672

SOVIET NORWEGIAN RELATIONS: RECENT STATEMENTS BY NORWEGIAN
PRIME MINISTER BRATTELI ON RELATIONS WITH THE SOVIET UNION
IN THE BARENTS SEA AND SVALHARD AREAS ARE BEING INTERPRETED
IN BOTH MOSCOW AND SEVERAL WESTERN CAPITALS AS AN INVITATION
FOR CLOSER SOVIET-NORWEGIAN RELATIONS IN THE ARCTIC. THE
SOVIET AMBASSADOR IN OSLO SEES THE SPEECH AS A SPECIAL GESTURE
TOWARD THE USSR. BRATTELI SAID THAT BOTH NORWAY AND THE USSR
HAVE AN OVERRIDING INTEREST IN MAINTAINING PEACE IN THE AREA
AND IN REACHING A CLEAR AGREEMENT ABOUT ECONOMIC ACTIVITY IN
THESE OCEAN AREAS. THE BRATTELI SPEECH WENT FURTHER THAN

NSA review(s) completed.

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PAST NORWEGIAN STATEMENTS ON THE SVALBARD QUESTION, SUGGESTING THAT THE NORWEGIANS MAY BEND OVER BACKWARDS TO ACCOMMODATE THE RUSSIANS. THERE IS SPECULATION THAT NORWAY INTENDS TO PROHIBIT ECONOMIC PROJECTS IN THE AREA THAT INTERFERE WITH SOVIET ACTIVITIES. WHILE THE BRATTELI SPEECH PROBABLY DOES NOT SIGNAL A CHANGE IN NORWEGIAN POLICY, IT DOES SEEM TO SHOW A GREATER NORWEGIAN REGARD FOR SOVIET SECURITY CONCERNS IN THE AREA AND THE NEED FOR CLEAR-CUT AGREEMENTS WITH THE SOVIET UNION CONCERNING SVALBARD.

SOVIETS ENLARGE INDIAN OCEAN FLEET: THE USSR'S INDIAN OCEAN NAVAL CONTINGENT IS EXPECTED TO BE PERMANENTLY ENLARGED NEXT MONTH BY THE ADDITION OF A THIRD DESTROYER ESCORT. SOVIET PRACTICE IS TO KEEP THESE SHIPS ON STATION IN THE INDIAN OCEAN FOR ABOUT A YEAR, AND THOSE WITH THE GROUP ARRIVED ONLY RECENTLY. THE CONTINGENT WILL BE THE LARGEST THE SOVIETS HAVE MAINTAINED ON A REGULAR BASIS IN THE AREA -- ONE DESTROYER, THREE DESTROYER ESCORTS, TWO FLEET MINE-SWEEPERS, A LANDING SHIP, AND A DIESEL ATTACK SUBMARINE. DURING THE PAST YEAR, THE SOVIETS HAVE IMPROVED THE CAPABILITY OF THE GROUP BY ADDING AN INTELLIGENCE-COLLECTOR SHIP AND BY REPLACING AN OLDER KOTLIN-CLASS DESTROYER WITH A NEW DESTROYER OF THE KANTIN-CLASS.

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CHINA SEEKS LARGE HELICOPTERS: CHINA MAY BUY AN UNSPECIFIED NUMBER OF LARGE TRANSPORT HELICOPTERS FROM JAPAN, [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] THE COMPLETION OF THE DEAL IS CONTINGENT ON APPROVAL BY THE LICENSOR AND THE U.S. AND JAPANESE GOVERNMENTS. THE U.S. GOVERNMENT ALREADY HAS BEEN ASKED TO APPROVE THE TRANSACTION. THE CHINESE COULD USE THIS TYPE OF HELICOPTER FOR CARRYING CIVILIAN OR MILITARY PASSENGERS OR SUPPLIES AND FOR PERFORMING MARITIME RESCUE AND MEDICAL EVACUATION MISSIONS. THE HELICOPTER CAN CARRY 26 FULLY EQUIPPED SOLDIERS.

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